Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 ICA-11 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 IO-13 /081 W -------118630 181113Z /13

R 171110Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6322
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EFIN, NO

SUBJ: IMF/WORLD BANK ANNUAL MEETING

REF: A) STATE 203590, B) HELSINKI 2632

1. FINANCE MINISTER PER KLEPPE AND BANK OF NORWAY DIRECTOR KNUT GETZ WOLD WILL HEAD NORWAY'S DELEGATION TO BANK AND FUND MEETINGS RESPECTIVELY AS GOVERNORS FOR NORWAY. ALSO ATTENDING WILL BE COMMERCE MINISTER HALVARD BAKKE, BANK ALTERNATE GOVERNOR, AND COMMERCE DIRECTOR GENERAL STEINAR SOERBOTTEN, AS FUND ALTERNATE GOVERNOR. IN A TWIST OF PROTOCOL, COMMERCE UNDER SECRETARY PER MARTIN OELBERG WILL SERVE AS QUOTE COUSELOR UNQUOTE TO THE JOINT DELEGATION.

2. MFA OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR ANNUAL MEETING PREPARATIONS SAYS GON DOES NOT PLAN TO RAISE ANY QUOTE IMPORTANT PROPOSALS UNQUOTE IN PLENARY OR DIRECTLY WITH SENIOR BANK/FUND OFFICIALS. HE CONFIRMED THAT ISSUES MENTIONED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PARA TWO REF B WERE DISCUSSED AT NORDIC CAUCUS ON AUGUST 14, BUT SAID THEY WERE NOT PLENARY ISSUES. THE SWEDES, SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE NORDICS, WILL PROBABLY KEY THEIR REMARKS TO THEMES MCNAMARA IS EXPECTED TO STRESS IN THIS YEAR'S MEETINGS.

3. THE GON IS NOT AT THIS TIME REQUESTING BILATERALS

WITH SENIOR USG OFFICIALS. THERE ARE NO MAJOR ISSUES LAKKELY TO BE RAISED WITH US DELEGATION, NOR IN OUR JUDGMENT ARE THERE MAJOR ISSUES US DEL SHOULD TAKE UP WITH NORWEGIANS.

4. IN A RELATED MATTER, HOWEVER, OUR MFA CONTACT HAS ASKED US TO SEEK CLARIFICATION ON USG ATTITUDE TOWARD THE FUTURE OF THE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE. APPARENTLY THE NORDICS ARE CONSIDERING AN INITIATIVE TO PROPOSE ABOLISHMENT OF THE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, WHICH THEY WOULD RAISE DURING ITS MEETING CONCURRENT WITH THE BANK/FUND MEETING. THE GON HAS HEARD CONFLICTING INFORMATION AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THE USG IS IN FAVOR OF THE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE'S CONTINUED EXISTENCE, AND WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT USG VIEWS WHEN THE NORDICS NEXT CAUCUS ON AUGUST 24.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: RESPONSE TO ISSUE RAISED IN PARA 4, PRIOR TO AUGUST 24 IF POSSIBLE. BREMER

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